

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,
PRESIDING OFFICER

RULES COMMITTEE

NORMA GONSALVES,
CHAIRWOMAN

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

March 16, 2015
1:40 p.m.

REGAL REPORTING SERVICES
516-747-7353

A P P E A R A N C E S:

NORMA GONSALVES
Chairwoman

RICHARD NICOLELLO
Vice Chairman

DENNIS DUNNE

HOWARD KOPEL

KEVAN ABRAHAMS
Ranking

JUDY JACOBS

CARRIE SOLAGES

WILLIAM J. MULLER, III, Clerk

LIST OF SPEAKERS

STEVE KORDY	8
JOHN BUDNICK.	12

2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSLAVES: Clerk Mueller,
3 please call the Rules Committee.

4 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Solages?

5 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

6 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Jacobs?

7 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Here.

8 CLERK MULLER: Ranking Member, Minority
9 Leader Abrahams?

10 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Kopel?

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

13 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Dunne?

14 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Here.

15 CLERK MULLER: Vice Chairman Nicoletto?

16 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.

17 CLERK MULLER: Chairwoman Gonsalves?

18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Present.

19 CLERK MULLER: We have a quorum.

20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSLAVES: First item is
21 Item 95-15, a resolution to accept a gift offered
22 by a donor to the Nassau County Veterans Service
23 Agency.

LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator Kopel.

Anyone who would like to speak on this
item that is being donated to the -- I believe
it's the Veterans Post 101. Is there anyone
here? If not, guess what --

Is there any comment on this particular
item?

LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Just real quickly.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay. Go ahead.
I will tell you what it is. Go ahead.

LEGISLATOR DUNNE: This vehicle is used
to bring veterans to Northport VA Hospital for
their appointments. It's very difficult to get
out to Northport, as you know. There are
veterans that are disabled and they can't get out
there. This is wonderful that they are getting a
new vehicle donated by the American Legion in
Westbury.

I was asked by Legislator Schaefer to say
thank you on behalf of her district for providing
this for the County. It's a wonderful thing. Is

anybody here from Westbury American Legion? I don't see anybody here. Maybe at the Full Leg they will probably be here, right? They don't have to. All right. I just wanted to say it's a wonderful thing that they did.

This is an expensive ordeal. We started it when I was director of veterans affairs. A man by the name of Tommy Banks, who was with the Marine Corps League in Massapequa, came up with the idea on the Nassau County Executive Veterans Advisory Committee, which was Tommy Gullotta's at the time. We asked Gullotta to give us the cars that he was going to turn in to get other cars, to give us those cars instead of turning them in, to transport veterans out to Northport. It's still going and going strong.

My neighbors are driving those cars now. They're retired. They're doing a great job. It's a wonderful, wonderful thing that they are doing. This is going to help prolong it and make the ride comfortable.

So, thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: By the way, the van is a 2010 Silver Toyota Sienna, and it was

valued at approximately \$36,000. Salute to Post 101 for its generosity and making it possible for our veterans and senior citizens to get to Northport.

Any other comments?

(No verbal response.)

There being none; all those in favor of Item 95 signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any opposed?

(No verbal response.)

The item passes unanimously.

We have an A contract. A-11, a resolution authorizing the director of Nassau County Office of Purchasing to award and execute a contract between the County of Nassau, acting on behalf of Nassau County Department of Assessment and the Sanborn Map Company, Inc.

Motion, please?

LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator Nicolello.

2 Anyone here to talk about this particular
3 item?

4 There being none -- is someone coming?
5 Turn the mic on, please.

6 MR. KORDY: Good afternoon. My name is
7 Steve Kordy. I'm the deputy assessor. I also
8 have a representative with me today from the
9 Sanborn Map Company, if there are any technical
10 questions that need to be answered.

11 I assume everyone got a copy of the
12 contract. If there are any questions.

13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
14 Jacobs.

15 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Hi. We did not get
16 a copy of the contract. Let me say this to you.
17 I know how important this is that you must have
18 this and we must have it, because it's an
19 excellent tool to look into the situation of
20 where houses are and where they're assessed at,
21 etcetera.

22 Let me ask you a question. This
23 particular one right now is \$213,485. I know
24 every two years this is going to come up before
25 us; am I correct?

MR. KORDY: It's one contract. It covers six years. There are -- every other year there's a flyover. So the first flyover would be done hopefully within the next two to four weeks, if you approve the contract, then again in 2015 and 2017. Typically that's done around March, wherever the weather conditions are good for us. Right now we're waiting for the snow to leave and hopefully no foliage, that would be the optimum time to do this.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I'm going to assume something now, just correct me if I'm wrong, that you did big this out, or have these people been doing it for a while now?

MR. KORDY: Sanborn Map Company has been in existence, I believe, over 100 years.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: No. But have they been working for us?

MR. KORDY: For us, no. No, they have not.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: This is new.

MR. KORDY: Their primary function is in New York City and that's how we know of them.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So this is the first

time they're doing the flyover?

MR. KORDY: Yes.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So my question to you is who did it originally? Is there a reason we changed?

MR. KORDY: The original company that did this years ago was a company called Pictometry. That ended several years ago. That hasn't been done in quite a number of years.

Sanborn offers other benefits to the way they fly. They have a two and a half inch pixel resolution that they use, which is tremendous, which means we can do resolution, you know, just be very exact with that. They also have -- or we would have the ability to measure structures by using this. We could do that without having to go onto properties. Typically speaking, homeowners don't like to let us on property. It's a way for us to measure and to be accurate. It's not just basic measurements, it's horizontal and vertical. So we can measure the number of stories. We can also measure slopes. There's a multitude of uses for this.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I fully can

understand. Obviously, we're at a disadvantage because we did not see the contract. I'm just saying, do we know what the cost is going forward? I know you're going to have to come before us again in 2017; am I correct?

MR. KORDY: 2017, yes. I thought that was -- I'm sorry. You said you didn't have the contract.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: We never got the contract. That's the only reason I'm asking.

MR. KORDY: I apologize for that. I know it was sent over.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I'm sure. But we didn't get it. Listen. That's not important. We know now what you're doing for 2015. I'm just saying within the contract did you, more or less, lock into a certain amount that it would be?

MR. KORDY: For 2017 -- 2015 the cost is 213,000 rounded. 2017 it's 222,000. 2019 it's 232,000.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Okay. All right. That's what I really wanted to know. I'm sure that I could request from the clerk's office to make sure we get a copy of this contract.

2 MR. KORDY: I will make sure this is sent
3 to you today.

4 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Thank you.

5 Okay. That's all I had.

6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: By the way, this
7 item was clocked in on March 2 at 2:34 p.m.
8 Together with the backup, I believe there was a
9 requisition sheet attached to it. I don't know
10 if that would help, Judy, in answering some of
11 your questions. I think there is also a copy of
12 the certificate of liability insurance.

13 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I think just for our
14 records, we'd appreciate a copy, that's all.

15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: That's fine. No
16 problem.

17 Any other comments from the legislators?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 There being none; any public comment
20 regarding this item, which is the contract
21 between Nassau County Department of Assessment
22 and Sanborn Map Company?

23 (No verbal response.)

24 There being none - yes.

25 MR. BUDNICK: May I?

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You may, Mr. Budnick.

MR. BUDNICK: Thank you very much, Chairwoman Gonsalves, ladies and gentlemen of the board.

On this particular item, it is to be hoped that the photography that's developed from this is turned over, for example, to people in DPW and parks. There have been recently a number of allegations of people and businesses that are expanding onto county property. The availability of this will be able to help the county very much to determine if these things are going on and, if so, how to deal with them.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You're welcome, Mr. Budnick.

There being no other comment; all those in favor of A-11 --

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: I have some questions. Madam Chair, may I please ask some questions? Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay. Go ahead.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Good afternoon.

How are you doing today?

MR. KORDY: All right. How are you, sir?

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you.

In this new day and age of technology where people have such interesting apps they could put on their i-phone or Android, is there a cheaper way of doing this by using Google maps or any sort of technology?

MR. KORDY: We're not permitted to use Google maps or Bing. The reason for this type of product is that we have to be able to pass muster with ORPTS, which is the Office of Real Property Tax Services. So they only permit us to use this product because we have to be able to identify the properties. We have to put Section, Block, and Lot numbers to each one of these. So we can't do this with other sources.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: But this is a sole source contract. This vendor uniquely has this skill that no other vendors have. Let's just say unfortunately something goes wrong. Does the county have to start from scratch, in terms of doing this effort?

MR. KORDY: Right now we're using data that's probably seven or eight years old, which is virtually useless.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: I understand. But when it comes to the assessment system, the fundamental problem is that we don't have accurate assessments. How will this help us - specifically, how will this help us get more accurate assessments?

MR. KORDY: Several ways. The biggest is the inventory. We have to visit properties to truly understand what people have added or taken away. This will make that job a lot easier for us. We also have other projects that we're working on right now that are substantial. Right now we're doing our neighborhood boundaries. Without getting into all of that, because that could take a lot of time to explain. It's a very important component as to how we value properties. So this will help us with projects like that to delineate these districts even better, refine them better, and we'll be able to micromanage our values better.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: We can't go on

Google Maps or some app and I can't do that?

MR. KORDY: You can, but you're not going to know what property you're looking at by legal identification because they don't have section, block and lot numbers to them.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: There's no software out there that already incorporates --

MR. KORDY: Not for that, no.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: that?

MR. KORDY: And ORPTS won't certify that. The reason that's important is because we will be required by ORPTS to look at a sixth of our role every year; we can't do that with current staff. Weather prohibits that from happening in a timeframe, and there are a whole host of reasons. A lot of this work can actually be done in-house, an assessor could do that at their desk.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: But if this effort is successful and you don't need some of your staff to go there, will you consider then not using that staff? I just want to know the parameters of this technology and how it could help the assessment department.

MR. KORDY: Again, when someone does something to a property, they get permits, sometimes they don't, we will be able to see what's been added. It also has a change finder portion in the program. It will compare the photography from 2015 to '17 and then to '19. So if there have been changes, it will tell us that. And we would be able to send an assessor out, look at it, and make sure we have it. If we don't have it, why don't we have it? It will help us, again, keep our inventory up to date.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: So this technology will allow you -- how closely will you be able to see the parcel? Can you see people? If someone is sunbathing outside, will you be able to see them?

MR. KORDY: You will be able to see them. The resolution on this is quite good. It's oblique imagery. It's basically like the Google Earth where you look at a property 360 degrees on a 45 degree angle. We will be able to measure buildings, so especially on commercial properties where you can't get on a property or the building is quite large, we could actually do

2 that in-house. It will save a substantial amount
3 of time too.

4 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you very
5 much.

6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Mr. Kordy, I have
7 a question for you.

8 MR. KORDY: Yes.

9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Would it be
10 correct to say that having such a contract
11 qualifies us for state funding?

12 MR. KORDY: Yes.

13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay. To what
14 amount?

15 MR. KORDY: It would be capped at
16 \$500,000. I believe it's \$2 per parcel, times
17 420-some-odd-thousand, we would be capped at the
18 500,000.

19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay. So there
20 is a --

21 MR. KORDY: And that would pay for this,
22 yes.

23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay.

24 MR. KORDY: And the other good thing
25 about it, as this other gentleman mentioned,

every county department has access to this.

We've had discussions with various other departments in how this would be used in our GIS meetings.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator Kopel.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Just one question.

You're talking about measuring things. Isn't all that information available at the building departments, the various building departments?

MR. KORDY: Yes, but sometimes that can be consuming because we have to fill out FOIL request forms. It could take sometimes a couple of weeks before we get access to building plans.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: FOIL requires turning over records that you've got, it doesn't require you to go out and get records.

MR. KORDY: If we go to a town and I want to see the building plans for a property so I don't have to go on-site and measure, I would FOIL that.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I understand.

MR. KORDY: But that's a lot of time I don't have to spend doing that now.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Okay.

MR. KORDY: Or I get a permit --

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Do you actually have
to FOIL it --

MR. KORDY: I'm sorry?

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Anybody can just go
in and look at those records. Those are public
records.

MR. KORDY: They could look at the
records the town has, if they permit that to
happen. Our material --

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Towns and villages,
in other words, I know, for clients I look at
those things all the time. You just go there and
look. They let you.

MR. KORDY: We do have access to that.
But we get over 25,000 permits a year.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: This is just a more
efficient way.

MR. KORDY: Oh, absolutely.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Okay.

MR. KORDY: Absolutely.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: There being no
other questions or comments, all those in favor
of Contract A-11 signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any opposed?

(No verbal response.)

The contract passes unanimously.

Motion to adjourn?

LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator Kopel.

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any opposed?

(No verbal response.)

We are now adjourned.

(Whereupon, the Rules Committee adjourned
at 1:57 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and
Notary Public in and for the State of New York,
do hereby state:

THAT I attended at the time and place above
mentioned and took stenographic record of the
proceedings in the above-entitled matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true and
accurate transcript of the same and the whole
thereof, according to the best of my ability and
belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
hand this 13th day of April, 2015.

FRANK GRAY